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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/640,750	08/18/2000	Thomas R. Marotta	1960.213	7654

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EXAMINER

HO, UYEN T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3731

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/640,750

Applicant(s)

MAROTTA ET AL.

Examiner

(Jackie) Tan-Uyen T. Ho

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Marotta et al. (6,261,305). Marotta et al. disclose an expandable endovascular prostheses (fig. 23 and col. 12, lines 25-54).

In regard to claim 1-27, the prosthesis includes: A body is constructed from a plastically deformable material, self-expanding material and a biodegradable material (col. 7, lines 40-62), the body having:

- A first expandable portion (435) having a porous surface.
- A second expandable portion having a porous surface (425).
 - The porous surface is defined by a plurality of interconnected struts (426, 427, 428, 429).

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- The interconnected struts include a plurality of first struts (426, 427) and a plurality of second struts (429) disposed at an acute angle with respect to the first struts. The first struts (426, 427) are connected to a first edge of the first expandable portion (fig. 23) and the second struts (429) are not directly connected to the first expandable portion (425) but they are connected to the first expandable portion (425) via the first struts (425, 426).
- The first edge includes a circumferentially meandering pattern having a plurality of apices with a first set of convex apices and a second set of concave apices alternate with respect to one another.
- A third expandable portion (440) having porous surface and connected to the first expandable portion by at least one strut (450).
- An elastic member (460) covers at least a portion of the porous surface.

In regard to claim 29, Marotta et al. disclose a method for endovascular blocking of an aneurismal opening with the prosthesis (col. 14, lines 34-50 including the step of:

- disposing the prosthesis on a catheter,
- inserting the prosthesis and catheter within a body passage way to a target vascular lumen at which the aneurysm opening is located,
- exerting a radially outward expansive force to expand the first portion against the target body passageway and the second portion against the aneurysm opening thereby blocking the aneurismal opening.


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In regard to claim 30, since Marotta et al. disclose the prosthesis, as claimed, the method for producing the prosthesis the steps of expanding the second expandable portion, affixing the covering material to the second expandable portion and compressing the second expandable portion is inherent.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mehta (5,258,042), Keranen (5,609,628), McCrory (5,951,599) and Brown et al. (6,093,199) disclose expandable prosthesis for treating aneurysms.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to (Jackie) Tan-Uyen T. Ho whose telephone number is (703) 306-3421. The examiner can normally be reached on MULTIFLEX Mon. to Sat.. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J. Milano can be reached on (703) 308-2496. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3590 for regular communications and (703) 305-3590 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.


(Jackie) Tan-Uyen T. Ho
May 7, 2002


KEVIN T. TRUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

5/14/02